

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY


(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 24 APR 2006

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Applicant's or agent's file reference WO 21.1187	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2005/000930	International filing date (day/month/year) 26.01.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 27.01.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC INV. E21B4/18 E21B7/06 E21B17/03 E21B41/00 E21B27/00			
Applicant SERVICES PETROLIERS SCHLUMBERGER et al			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>			
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>			
Date of submission of the demand 25.08.2005		Date of completion of this report 25.04.2006	
Name and mailing address of the International preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016		Authorized officer Weiand, T Telephone No. +31 70 340-	



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/000930

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

Description, Pages

1-58 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-49 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/20-20/20 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/000930

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1,30
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1,30
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-49
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 : US 5 394 951 A (PRINGLE RONALD E ET AL) 7 March 1995 (1995-03-07)
D2 : US 4 616 719 A (DISMUKES NEWTON B) 14 October 1986 (1986-10-14)
D3 : US 3 888 319 A (BOURNE JR HENRY A ET AL) 10 June 1975 (1975-06-10)
D4 : US 4 281 723 A (EDMOND TIBOR O ET AL) 4 August 1981 (1981-08-04)

2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

- 2.1 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.
Document D1 (see figures, col.3, line 15 - col.4, line 45) discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A system for drilling a lateral hole departing from a main well, the system comprising: a motor assembly including: a motor (30), an axial thruster (40), a blocking system (42), a drive shaft, a connector for transmitting the rotating torque and the axial force from the motor assembly to the drilling assembly, the drill string assembly comprising a drill pipe (28) and a drill bit (26), the connector providing a fluid communication channel between the motor assembly and an inside of the drill pipe; wherein the connector is a second connector being connectable to the drill string assembly to transmit both the axial force and the rotating torque to the drill pipe.

Documents D2-D4 cited in the search report are novelty destroying for claim 1 as well.

3. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 30

The same reasoning as under 2 applies to claim 30.

Re Item VIII.

1. The application does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT, because claims 1 and 30 are not clear.
- 1.1 Claims 1 and 30 do not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT in that the matter for which protection is sought is not defined. The claims attempt to define the subject-matter in terms of the result to be achieved. It appears possible to define the subject-matter in more concrete terms, viz. in terms of how the effect is to be achieved.

This concerns the statement "so as to transmit the axial force only to the drill pipe, and to transmit the rotating torque to a further drive shaft" as well as "so as to transmit both the axial force and the rotating torque".

- 1.2 The drill string assembly comprising a drill pipe and a drill bit. It is not clear from the claim if the drill pipe is connected to the drill bit and how; in one case it is connected (second connector), in the other not (first connector). In order to carry out the teaching of the invention it seems essential to define the relation for each connector to the drill pipe and to the drill bit. Since independent claims 1 and 30 do not contain these features they do not meet the requirements following from Article 6 PCT that any independent claim must contain all the technical features essential to the definition of the invention.
- 1.3 The claims try to define a system with interchangeable two connectors that connect a drill string assembly to a motor assembly. As the claim stands now, two independent connector alternatives for a motor assembly are claimed. This is not supported by the description as required by Article 6 PCT, as their scope is broader than justified by the description and drawings. The claim should be clear in claiming two connectors for a system for drilling a lateral.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE

(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

ETUDES & PRODUCTIONS SCHLUMBERGER
1 rue Henri Becquerel - BP 202
F-92142 Clamart Cedex
France

EPO - Munich
26

23 Nov. 2005

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 04 November 2005 (04.11.2005)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference WO 21.1187	
International application No. PCT/EP2005/000930	International filing date (day/month/year) 26 January 2005 (26.01.2005)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the applicant	<input type="checkbox"/> the inventor	<input type="checkbox"/> the agent <input type="checkbox"/> the common representative
Name and Address SCHLUMBERGER OVERSEAS S.A. SCHLUMBERGER OILFIELD ASSISTANCE SCHLUMBERGER SURENCO S.A. SCHLUMBERGER SERVICES LIMITED SCHLUMBERGER SEACO INC.	State of Nationality	State of Residence
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:		
<input type="checkbox"/> the person	<input type="checkbox"/> the name	<input type="checkbox"/> the address <input type="checkbox"/> the nationality <input type="checkbox"/> the residence
Name and Address	State of Nationality **	State of Residence **
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
3. Further observations, if necessary: The applicants identified in Box 1 have been deleted from the records. For more information regarding the remaining applicants, please see attached Form PCT/IB/345 which is an integral part of the present notification.		
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office	<input type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned	
<input type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Antonia MULLER (Fax : 338 89 75)
Facsimile No. (41-22) 338.89.75	Telephone No. (41-22) 338 8243

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

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	Teleprinter No.	
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:		
<input type="checkbox"/> the person	<input type="checkbox"/> the name	<input type="checkbox"/> the address <input type="checkbox"/> the nationality <input type="checkbox"/> the residence
Name and Address EPO-DG 1 16. 11. 2005 TEAM 14	State of Nationality **	State of Residence **
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Antonia MULLER (Fax : 338 89 75)
Facsimile No. (41-22) 338.89.75	Telephone No. (41-22) 338 8243

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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PCTCOMMUNICATION IN CASES FOR WHICH
NO OTHER FORM IS APPLICABLE

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

ETUDES & PRODUCTIONS
SCHLUMBERGER
1 rue Henri Becquerel - BP 202
F-92142 Clamart Cedex
FRANCE

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 04 November 2005 (04.11.2005)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference WO 21.1187	REPLY DUE see paragraph 1 below
International application No. PCT/EP2005/000930	International filing date (day/month/year) 26 January 2005 (26.01.2005)
Applicant SERVICES PETROLIERS SCHLUMBERGER	

1. ☐ REPLY DUE within _____ months/days from the above date of mailing☐ NO REPLY DUE, however, see below☒ IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION☐ INFORMATION ONLY**EPO-DG 1**

16. 11. 2005

TEAM 14

2. COMMUNICATION:

Continuation of Form PCT/IB/306, Box 3., Observations:

SERVICES PETROLIERS SCHLUMBERGER S.A. is applicant for FR only.

SCHLUMBERGER HOLDINGS LIMITED is applicant for JP, NL, GB.

SCHLUMBERGER CANADA LIMITED is applicant for CA only.

SCHLUMBERGER TECHNOLOGY BV is applicant for AL, AU, AZ, BG, CO, CZ, DK, DE, GR, HU, ID, IE, IL, IT, KZ, KR, LT, MX, NZ, NO, OM, PL, RO, RU, SK, SI, ZA, TT, TN, TR, TM, UA, AE, UZ.

PRAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT N.V. is applicant for all designated States except FR, JP, NL, GB, CA, AL, AU, AZ, BG, CO, CZ, DK, DE, GR, HU, ID, IE, IL, IT, KZ, KR, LT, MX, NZ, NO, OM, PL, RO, RU, SK, SI, ZA, TT, TN, TR, TM, UA, AE, UZ.

A copy of the present notification is being sent to the receiving Office (RO/EP), the International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA/EP) and to the elected Offices concerned.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Antonia MULLER (Fax : 338 89 75)
Facsimile No. (41-22) 338.89.75	Telephone No. (41-22) 338.82.43